

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

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December 28, 2006

TO:

Audit Committee

FROM:

J. Tyler McCauley√ Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT:

SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITIZENS'

ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors to extend the Los Angeles County Citizens' Economy and Efficiency Commission's sunset review date to July 1, 2011.

BACKGROUND

The Citizens' Economy and Efficiency Commission (CEEC or Commission) was established by the Board of Supervisors' (Board) under Chapter 3.16 of the Los Angeles County Code. The most recent extension was approved by the Board in September 2001.

The CEEC examines various functions of County government at the request of the Board or on its own initiative, and submits recommendations to the Board to improve government economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

The CEEC consists of twenty-one members, four appointed by each Supervisorial District with the twenty-first appointment being the newly retired Foreperson of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury. All members appointed by the Board serve a two-year term. The retired Grand Jury Foreperson serves a one-year term commencing September 1 of each year.

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The Commission is required to meet monthly. Commission members are also required to attend CEEC task forces meetings. From April 1, 2001 through March 31, 2006, the Commission met 55 times, with an average attendance of 12.5 members (59%). Commission members do not receive compensation. For fiscal year 2005-06, CEEC's expenses were \$228,005. The CEEC's expenses include services and supplies, as well as consultant and clerical staff services. The staff prepare and distribute meeting information; serve as a liaison among the Commission and County departments; propose pertinent issues related to improving the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of local government; and prepare recommendations and reports for the Commission's consideration.

JUSTIFICATION

The CEEC was intended to improve government economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. During this review period, the CEEC:

- Worked with the Director of the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to review the County-wide programs used to develop and guide managers into leadership positions.
- Made 46 recommendations to help the County prevent, expose, and prosecute workers' compensation fraud.
- Recommended that the County implement a pilot project to analyze the cost/benefits
 of using video arraignment as an alternative to the physical transportation of
 prisoners to court.
- Reviewed the Grand Jury recommendations to determine CEEC's level of involvement in implementing those recommendations.
- Revised its website to include documentation of all the CEEC's activities and accomplishments.

The CEEC's goals for the next evaluation period are to:

 Work with the Sheriff's Department to develop a plan to utilize retired peace officers as additional law enforcement aid in times of emergency. Audit Committee December 28, 2006 Page 3

- Work with the Sheriff's Department to investigate if the number of women and children affected by domestic violence has a direct influence on the number of homeless women and children on the streets today, and how this can be changed.
- Continue reviewing Grand Jury recommendations to effectively implement the recommendations with the greatest impact.
- Continue focusing on issues it considers critical to government advancement.
- Remain available to the Board as a professional resource.

Please call me if you have any questions.

JTM:MMO:JLS:MR

Attachments

c: Bruce J. Staniforth, Executive Director, Citizens' Economy and Efficiency Commission Jaclyn Tilley Hill, Chair, Citizens' Economy and Efficiency Commission Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer Robin A. Guerrero, Chief, Board Operations Jim Corbett, Manager, Commission Services

COMMISSION SUNSET REVIEW LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITIZENS' ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION REVIEW COMMENTS

Mission. (Does the mission statement agree with the Board of Supervisors' purpose and expectations?)

Stated mission is as set forth in the ordinance creating the Commission. **CONCUR**

Section 1. Relevance. (Is the mission still relevant and in agreement with the Board of Supervisors' purpose and expectations?)

The CEEC examines various functions of County government at the request of the Board or on its own initiative, and submits recommendations to the Board to improve government economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. **RELEVANT**

Section 2. Meetings and Attendance. (Are required meetings held and is attendance satisfactory?)

The Commission is required to meet monthly. From April 1, 2001 through March 31, 2006, the Commission met 55 times, with an average attendance of 12.5 members (59%). **SATISFACTORY**

Section 3 and 4. Accomplishments and Results. (Are listed accomplishments and results significant?)

During this review period, the CEEC:

- Worked with the Director of the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to review the County-wide programs used to develop and guide managers into leadership positions. Based on the review, the CEEC made 12 recommendations that provide the County with a basis for the development of an executive succession management program. The program will equip qualified individuals with the skills needed to successfully handle senior management positions responsibilities within the County.
- Made 46 recommendations to help the County prevent, expose, and prosecute workers' compensation fraud.

- Recommended that the County implement a pilot project to analyze the cost/benefits of using video arraignment as an alternative to the physical transportation of prisoners to court.
- Reviewed the Grand Jury recommendations to determine CEEC's level of involvement in implementing those recommendations.
- Revised its website to include documentation of all CEEC activities and accomplishments to make information on the Commission more accessible to the public. <u>SIGNIFICANT</u>

Section 5. Objectives. (Are the objectives compatible with the mission and goals and relevant within the current County environment?)

The Commission was intended to improve government economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. The CEEC's goals for the next evaluation period are to:

- Work with the Sheriff's Department to develop a plan to use retired peace officers as additional law enforcement aid in times of emergency.
- Work with the Sheriff's Department to investigate if the number of women and children affected by domestic violence has a direct influence on the number of homeless women and children on the streets today, and how this can be changed.
- Continue reviewing Grand Jury recommendations to effectively implement the recommendations with the greatest impact.
- Continue focusing on issues that it considers critical to government advancement.
- Remain available to the Board as a professional resource in accomplishing specific assignments and requests. <u>RELEVANT</u>

Section 6. Resources. (Are the resources utilized by the entity in support of the entity's activities warranted in terms of the accomplishments and results?)

Commission members do not receive compensation. For fiscal year 2005-06, the Commission expenses were \$228,005. Commission's expenses include services and supplies, as well as consultant and clerical staff services. The staff prepare and distribute meeting information; serve as a liaison among the

Commission and County departments; propose pertinent issues related to improving the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of local government; and prepare recommendations and reports for the Commission's consideration. **WARRANTED**

Section 7. Recommendation.

EXTEND THE SUNSET REVIEW DATE FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITIZENS' ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION TO JULY 1, 2011.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITIZENS' ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION ATTENDANCE RECORD

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Commissioner	Number of Meetings per Quarter		Jonathan S. Fuhrman	Roman Padilla	Hon. Julia Sylva, Esq.	Hon. Alfred P. Balderrama	Robert Cole	David Farrar, Esq.	Hon. Ronald K. Ikejiri, Esq.	Chun Y. Lee	Hon. G. Thomas Thompson	Hon. Joanne Baltierrez	Hope Judith Boonshaft	Annie E. Cho	Tony Lucente	Jacyln Tilley Hill	William J. Petak, DPA	Hon. Robert H. Philibosian, Esq.	William A. Sullivan	Anthony D. Tortorice	Clayton R. Anderson	Isaac Diaz Barcelona	John Crowley	Royal F. Oakes, Esq.	Solon C. Soteras	H. Randall Stoke	John L. Lewis	Charles H. Parks	Clinton Simmons	Ira Thierer	Totals